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1    **CLAIMS**

2        1.    A method comprising:

3            displaying a television program having an associated channel;

4            displaying an interactive television mode indicator if the displayed

5 television program supports an interactive television mode;

6            activating the interactive television mode in response to a request from a

7 viewer of the television program to activate the interactive television mode; and

8            updating a channel status list to indicate that the television program is being

9 viewed in the interactive television mode.

10

11        2.    A method as recited in claim 1 wherein updating a channel status list

12 includes recording a time that the interactive television mode was activated for the

13 associated channel.

14

15        3.    A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the channel status list

16 identifies all channels for which the interactive television mode has been activated.

17

18        4.    A method as recited in claim 1 wherein a separate tuning device

19 maintains the interactive television status for each channel.

20

21        5.    A method as recited in claim 1 wherein activating the interactive

22 television mode includes opening an interactive window.

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1           6.    A method as recited in claim 1 further including removing the  
2 interactive television mode indicator after a predetermined time period.

3  
4           7.    One or more computer-readable memories containing a computer  
5 program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited in claim  
6 1.

7  
8           8.    A method comprising:  
9           displaying a video program having an associated channel;  
10           displaying an online video mode indicator if the displayed video program  
11 supports an online video mode;  
12           activating the online video mode in response to a request from a viewer of  
13 the video program to activate the online video mode; and  
14           updating a channel status list to indicate that the video program is being  
15 viewed in the online video mode.

16  
17           9.    A method as recited in claim 8 wherein updating a channel status list  
18 includes recording a time that the online video mode was activated for the  
19 associated channel.

20  
21           10.   A method as recited in claim 8 wherein the channel status list  
22 identifies all channels for which the online video mode has been activated.  
23  
24  
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1           17.    A method as recited in claim 15 further including:  
2           determining an online television mode status of the second channel from  
3           the channel status list; and  
4           if the second channel is in an online television mode, then opening an  
5           associated web page.

6  
7           18.    A method as recited in claim 15 wherein a separate tuning device  
8           maintains the interactive television mode for each channel.

9  
10          19.    One or more computer-readable memories containing a computer  
11          program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited in claim  
12          15.

13  
14          20.    A method comprising:  
15          displaying a television program;  
16          displaying a first indicator if the television program supports an interactive  
17          television mode;  
18          displaying a second indicator if the television program supports an online  
19          television mode;  
20          activating the interactive television mode if a viewer selects the first  
21          indicator; and  
22          activating the online television mode if the viewer selects the second  
23          indicator.

1           **21.**    A method as recited in claim 20 wherein the first indicator and the  
2 second indicator are icons.

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4           **22.**    A method as recited in claim 20 wherein the first indicator has an  
5 associated network address.

6  
7           **23.**    A method as recited in claim 20 wherein the first indicator has an  
8 associated uniform resource locator.

9  
10          **24.**    A method as recited in claim 20 wherein the second indicator has an  
11 associated network address.

12  
13          **25.**    A method as recited in claim 20 wherein the second indicator has an  
14 associated uniform resource locator.

15  
16          **26.**    A method as recited in claim 20 wherein activating the interactive  
17 television mode opens an interactive window.

18  
19          **27.**    A method as recited in claim 20 wherein activating the online  
20 television mode opens an associated web page.

21  
22          **28.**    A method as recited in claim 20 further including displaying a  
23 progress indicator while activating the interactive television mode.

1           **29.**   A method as recited in claim 20 further including displaying a  
2 progress indicator while activating the online television mode.

3  
4           **30.**   One or more computer-readable memories containing a computer  
5 program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited in claim  
6 20.

7  
8           **31.**   A user interface for an interactive television device, the user  
9 interface comprising:

10           an interactive television mode indicator, whereupon user selection of the  
11 interactive television mode indicator causes the interactive television device to  
12 activate an interactive television mode; and

13           an online television mode indicator, whereupon user selection of the online  
14 television mode indicator causes the interactive television device to open an  
15 associated web page.

16  
17           **32.**   A graphical user interface as recited in claim 31, wherein the user  
18 selects the interactive television mode indicator using a remote control device.

19  
20           **33.**   A graphical user interface as recited in claim 31, wherein the user  
21 selects the interactive television mode indicator using a button on the interactive  
22 television device.



1           **39.** An apparatus as recited in claim 36 wherein the interactive  
2 television device includes a video tuner to tune a current television program and a  
3 plurality of data tuners, wherein each of the plurality of data tuners tunes a  
4 television program previously activated in the interactive television mode.

5  
6           **40.** An apparatus comprising:  
7 a processor; and  
8 a storage device coupled to the processor and configured to store a  
9 television channel status list, wherein the television channel status list maintains a  
10 list of television channels for which an interactive mode has been activated, and  
11 wherein the storage device receives updates from the processor to add and delete  
12 television channels from the interactive mode.

13  
14           **41.** An apparatus as recited in claim 40 wherein the storage device  
15 receives requests from the processor regarding the current status of a particular  
16 television channel.

17  
18           **42.** An apparatus as recited in claim 40 wherein the television channel  
19 status list maintains a time that each television channel in the interactive mode was  
20 activated.

21  
22           **43.** An apparatus as recited in claim 40 wherein the television channel  
23 status list maintains a list of television channels for which an online mode has  
24 been activated.  
25



1       **44.**    An apparatus as recited in claim 43 wherein the storage device  
2 receives updates from the processor to add and delete television channels from the  
3 online mode.

4  
5       **45.**    One or more computer-readable media having stored thereon a  
6 computer program that, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one  
7 or more processors to:

8           display a video program;

9           display an interactive video mode indicator if the displayed video program  
10 supports an interactive video mode;

11          activate the interactive video mode in response to a request from a viewer  
12 of the video program to activate the interactive video mode; and

13          update a channel status list to indicate that the video program is being  
14 viewed in the interactive video mode.

15  
16       **46.**    One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 45  
17 wherein the channel status list identifies all video channels for which the  
18 interactive video mode has been activated.

19  
20       **47.**    One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 45  
21 wherein a separate tuning device maintains the interactive video status for each  
22 video channel.

1        48. One or more computer-readable media having stored thereon a  
2 computer program that, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one  
3 or more processors to:

4            display a television program having an associated first channel;  
5            change to a second channel and display a television program associated  
6 with the second channel;

7            determine an interactive television mode status of the second channel from  
8 a channel status list; and

9            if the second channel is in an interactive television mode, then open an  
10 interactive window.

11  
12        49. One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 48  
13 wherein the computer program, when executed by one or more processors, further  
14 causes the one or more processors to recreate a previous status of the interactive  
15 window.

16  
17        50. One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 48  
18 wherein the computer program, when executed by one or more processors, further  
19 causes the one or more processors to:

20            determine an online television mode status of the second channel from the  
21 channel status list; and

22            if the second channel is in an online television mode, then open an  
23 associated web page.